Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1 - 18. (Cancelled)

19. (New) A method for treating acne comprising topically applying a therapeutically effective amount of one or more polyvalent metal compounds selected from the group of magnesium and aluminum in a suitable dosage form to the area of lesion of the acne.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein a magnesium compound is selected form the group consisting of magnesium acetate, magnesium ascorbate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium chloride, magnesium citrate, magnesium stearate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium salicylate, magnesium sulfate, magnesium lactate and magnesium oxide.

21. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein an aluminum compound is selected from the group consisting of aluminum acetate, aluminum carbonate, aluminum chloride, aluminum potassium sulfate, aluminum glycinate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum lactate, aluminum oxide, aluminum subacetate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum salicylate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, and aluminum phosphate.

22. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the concentration of the polyvalent metal compound ranges from about 0.05% to about 50% by weight.

23. (New) A method of treating warts comprising topically applying a therapeutically effective amount of one or more polyvalent metal compounds selected form the group of magnesium and aluminum in a suitable dosage form to the area of lesion of the warts.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein a magnesium compound is selected from the group consisting of magnesium acetate, aluminum ascorbate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium

chloride, magnesium citrate, magnesium stearate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium salicylate, magnesium sulfate, magnesium lactate and magnesium oxide.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein an aluminum compound is selected form the group consisting of aluminum acetate, aluminum carbonate, aluminum chloride, aluminum potassium sulfate, aluminum glycinate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum lactate, aluminum oxide, aluminum subacetate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum salicylate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, and aluminum phosphate.

26. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the concentration of the polyvalent metal compound ranges from about 0.05% to about 50% by weight.

27. (New) The method of treating rosacea comprising topically applying a therapeutically effective amount of one or more polyvalent metal compounds selected from the group of magnesium and aluminum in a suitable dosage form to the area of lesion of the rosacea.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein a magnesium compound is selected from the group consisting of magnesium acetate, magnesium ascorbate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium chloride, magnesium citrate, magnesium stearate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium salicylate, magnesium sulfate, magnesium lactate and magnesium oxide.

29. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein an aluminum compound is selected from the group consisting of aluminum acetate, aluminum carbonate, aluminum chloride, aluminum potassium sulfate, aluminum glycinate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum lactate, aluminum oxide, aluminum subacetate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum salicylate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, and aluminum phosphate.

30. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein the concentration of the polyvalent metal compound ranges from about 0.05% to about 50% by weight.

31. (New) A method for preventing scar formation from a lesion or for healing or sloughing of the scar once formed comprising topical application of a therapeutically effective amount of

one or more polyvalent metal compounds selected from the group consisting of magnesium, aluminum and bismuth in a suitable dosage form to the area of the lesion or scar on the skin.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein a metal compound is selected from the group consisting of magnesium acetate, magnesium ascorbate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium chloride, magnesium citrate, magnesium stearate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium salicylate, magnesium sulfate, magnesium lactate and magnesium oxide, aluminum acetate, aluminum carbonate, aluminum chloride, aluminum potassium sulfate, aluminum glycinate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum lactate, aluminum oxide, aluminum subacetate, aluminum sulfate, aluminum salicylate, aluminum ammonium sulfate, and aluminum phosphate, bismuth subsalicylate, bismuth chloride, bismuth oxide, bismuth subcarbonate, bismuth subgallate, bismuth subsaltrate, bismuth phosphate, bismuth aluminate, bismuth salicylic, bismuth tribromophenate, bismuth dipropylacetate, bismuth citrate, bismuth subcitrate, bismuth ascorbate, bismuth subcarbonate, bismuth tartrate and colloidal bismuth subcitrate.

33. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the concentration of the polyvalent metal compound ranges from about 0.05% to about 50% by weight.

34. (New) A method for treating acne, warts or rosacea comprising topically applying to the area of lesion a therapeutically effective amount in a suitable dosage form of one or more bismuth compounds.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein a bismuth compound is selected from the group consisting of bismuth subsalicylate, bismuth chloride, bismuth oxide, bismuth subcarbonate, bismuth subgallate, bismuth subsaltrate, bismuth phosphate, bismuth aluminate, bismuth salicylic, bismuth tribromophenate, bismuth dipropylacetate, bismuth citrate, bismuth subcitrate, bismuth ascorbate, bismuth subcarbonate, bismuth tartrate and colloidal bismuth subcitrate.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the concentration of the bismuth compound ranges from about 0.05% to about 50% by weight.